

West Damar language

West Damar, or *North Damar*, is an Austronesian language of Damar Island, one of the Maluku Islands of Indonesia. In spite of rather low cognacy rates with its neighboring languages,^[3] it can be classified as part of the Babar languages based on qualitative evidence.^[4]

It is only spoken in the village of Batumerah^[5], located on the north-western part of Damar.

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Vocabulary

Vocabulary list:^[5]

West Damar	
North Damar	
<i>Damar Batumerah</i>	
Native to	Indonesia
Region	Maluku Islands
Native speakers	(800 cited 1987) ^[1]
Language family	Austronesian - Malayo-Polynesian - Central–Eastern - Timor–Babar - Babar West Damar
Language codes	
ISO 639-3	drn
Glottolog	west2548 (http://glottolog.org/resource/language/id/west2548) ^[2]

West Damar	Indonesian	English
odo	saya	I
ede	engkau	you (sing.)
idi	dia	he, she
itito	kita	we (incl.)
odomo	kami	we (exc.)
edmi	kamu	you (pl.)
idiro	mereka	they
mehno	satu	one
wyeru	dua	two
wyetteli	tiga	three
wyoto	empat	four
wilimo	lima	five
wyename	enam	six
witi	tujuh	seven
way	delapan	eight
wisi	sembilan	nine
uswuti	sepuluh	ten
ulkona	kepala	head
lima	tangan	hand
eya	kaki	foot

Sample Sentences

Ede mpondai? - Are you ill?

E'e, odo ulkonacheni nchepondo - Yes, I have a headache

Wohleyo Binayani idihe hulchupondeheti wohleyo Ahehendini - The mountain Binaya is the highest at the Seram island

See also

- East Damar language

References

1. West Damar (<https://www.ethnologue.com/18/language/drn/>) at *Ethnologue* (18th ed., 2015)
2. Hammarström, Harald; Forkel, Robert; Haspelmath, Martin, eds. (2017). "West Damar" (<http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/west2548>). *Glottolog 3.0*. Jena, Germany: Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History.
3. Mark Taber. 1993. Toward a better understanding of the Indigenous Languages of Southwestern Maluku. *Oceanic Linguistics* 32. 389-441.

4. Aone van Engelenhoven. 2010. Tentatively locating West-Damar among the languages of Southwest Maluku. In Chlenova, Svetlana and Fedorchuk, Artem (eds.), *Studia Anthropologica: a Festschrift in Honor of Michael Chlenov*, 297-326. Moscow-Jerusalem: Gesharim.
5. "West Damar Language or Damar-Batumerah, an Isolate in South-Eastern Indonesia" (https://web.archive.org/web/20150512110444/http://www-01.sil.org/asia/philippines/ical/papers/chlenov-west_damar.pdf) (PDF). *web.archive.org*. 2015-05-12. Retrieved 2020-07-04.

Further reading

- Michael Chlenov & Svetlana Chlenova, 2006. "West Damar language or Damar-Batumerah, an isolate in South-Eastern Indonesia." *Tenth International Conference on Austronesian Linguistics*, 17–20 January 2006, Palawan, Philippines.[1] (http://www.sil.org/asia/philippines/ical/papers/chlenov-west_damar.pdf)

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